IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Ralph de la Torre Group Art Unit: 3733

Serial No.: 10/666,707 Examiner: Annette R. Reimers

Filed: 19 SEP 2003 Attorney Docket: MED-019

Title: Pericardial Retractor

Honorable Commissioner for Patents Alexandria, VA 22313

Sir:

This is a timely reply to an Office Action dated Dec. 29, 2006. As no claims have been added, and no extension fee is required, no fees are enclosed herewith. If any additional fee is due, please charge the fee to deposit account no. 07-1732.

A Statement of the claims begins on page 2.

Remarks (Argument) begin on page 7 hereof.